



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rural Development



Rural Business Development Grant Applications Requested

Kentucky

APPLICATIONS DUE: Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Application Cycle Open: USDA Rural Development invites applications to compete for FY17 funding for the Rural Business Development Grant Program. For Kentucky's State allocation and to promote geographic distribution, applications are limited to \$100,000 or less.

Eligible applicants for grant funds include non-profits, municipalities, development corporations, and state agencies.

Eligible project types include the following:

- **"Enterprise" Activities** (Support small and emerging businesses): Technical assistance (i.e. feasibility studies, business and marketing plans); equipment purchases (grantee must retain ownership) are encouraged (i.e. shared business incubator equipment) and construction/land development (i.e., farmer's market pavilion)
- **"Opportunity" Activities:** Promote sustainable economic development in rural communities, economic planning for rural communities, provide technical assistance to rural businesses, or provide training for rural entrepreneurs, or comprehensive area wide planning.

Note: Funding for Opportunity type activities has been limited to 10% of available funds.

Note: "Pass-through" grants are not an allowable purpose.

To obtain an Application Template, notify the appropriate Rural Business Specialist listed below:

- Western Kentucky – Robi Fauser-Fink – robi.fauser.fink@ky.usda.gov – 859/224-7451
- Southern/Eastern Kentucky – Mark Mason – mark.mason@ky.usda.gov – 606/864-2172, Ext 126
- Northern/Central Kentucky – Tonya Mosley – tonya.mosley@ky.usda.gov – 859/224-7683
- State Office - Cheryl Clay – Cheryl.clay@ky.usda.gov – 859/224-7326

Agency Initiative: Nearly all business sectors can be assisted with the program. However, USDA-RD is placing specific emphasis on the following business sectors for Fiscal Year 2017.

2. Projects that impact locally produced / locally manufactured food networks and/or distribution systems.
3. Projects targeting strategic economic and community development communities (StrikeForce, Persistent Poverty and Promise Zone communities).

Completed application packages must be received by 4:30 p.m. **Tuesday, February 28, 2017** the appropriate Rural Business Specialist indicated above.

Kentucky State Office

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